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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/708,276	11/07/2000	Gary J. Nabel	1708642/94	1399
757	7590	02/24/2004	EXAMINER	
GENERAL NUMBER 00757 BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. BOX 10395 CHICAGO, IL 60611				GUZO, DAVID
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		1636		

DATE MAILED: 02/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	09/708,276	Applicant(s)	NABEL ET AL.
Examiner	David Guzo	Art Unit	1636

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/8/03.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 17-34 and 36-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17-28 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 29-34 and 36-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____ .

Detailed Action

The Terminal Disclaimer filed 8/8/03 is acceptable and has been entered.

Applicants' arguments and the 37 CFR 1.131 Declaration of Drs. G. J. Nabel and E. G. Nabel are sufficient to overcome the outstanding rejections under 35 USC 103(a).

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 29-34 and 36-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

This rejection is maintained for reasons of record in the previous Office Action (Mailed 5/7/03) and for reasons outlined below. This rejection addresses the lack of written description for a p27 gene.

Applicants traverse this rejection by asserting that the term "gene", as used in the instant specification, describes a DNA sequence that encodes the transcribed region. Applicants point to the specification at page 10 where applicants assert that "genes" are described as being under control of regulatory elements and that the specification discusses expressing the p27 gene via an expression vector.

Applicant's arguments filed 8/8/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicants do not, in the instant specification **define** a "gene" as applicants assert. While it appears that applicants use a shorthand method of referring to a coding sequence or cDNA as a gene, applicants do not define a "gene" as a coding sequence of a gene which excludes the regulatory regions of said gene. Indeed, on page 10 of the specification, applicants refer to incorporating "...a therapeutic amount of a gene encoding p27 in a liposome." This terminology encompasses **the standard use** of the term "gene" as a nucleic acid encompassing coding and regulatory regions (i.e. exons, introns, promoter, enhancer, etc.). Also, given that applicants use the **claim language** "...nucleic acid comprising a gene encoding...p27", it must be considered that the term gene here reads on the standard use of the term "gene" and reads on the coding and regulatory regions of the nucleic acid encoding p27. The rejection is therefore maintained.

Claims 29-34 and 36-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

This rejection pertains to the written description rejection regarding the support for the kit claims.

Applicants traverse this rejection by amending the claims to delete the term "kit" and substitute the term "combination". Applicants submit that the specification provides support for a combination of a catheter and the various nucleic acids of the invention.

In response, the examiner notes that the specification provides support for a combination of a nucleic acid comprising a gene encoding p27 and a **balloon catheter**. The specification does not provide support for a combination of the nucleic acid encoding p27 and **any catheter**. This is a NEW MATTER rejection.

Any rejections not repeated in this Office Action are withdrawn.

No Claims are allowed.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Guzo, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0767. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Irem Yucel, Ph.D., can be reached on (571) 272-0781. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

David Guzo
January 26, 2004


DAVID GUZO
PRIMARY EXAMINER